

ABSTRACT

An object of the present invention is to reduce the adhesion of floating glass particulates to the surface of a soot preform during the manufacture of the soot preform, thereby reducing the voids generated in the transparent glass preform made from the soot preform, and to improve the quality of the optical fiber manufactured from the transparent glass preform. The equipment of the invention is equipped with a reaction vessel 1, a burner 2 provided within the reaction vessel 1 into which raw material gas and combustion gas are supplied so as to generate glass particulates by hydrolysis reaction, and a starting rod 5 onto which the glass particulates generated by the burner 2 are deposited. By drawing up the starting rod 5 while turning it around its axis, the glass particulates are deposited on the tip of or around the starting rod 5 to form a soot preform 6 in column-like shape. The equipment is provided with a partition board 8 that separates part of the space around the soot preform 6 in the reaction vessel 1 into upper and lower parts. An exhaust port 4 is provided below the partition board 8 in the inner wall of the reaction vessel 1, and the burner 2 is installed in the space below the partition board 1.

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